REMARKS

Claims 58-70, 74-76 and 78-83 are pending. No claims stand allowed. Claims 58, 59, 64-66, and 76 have been amended. Support for the claim amendments may be found in the specification as filed at, for example, page 12, lines 17-27, page 16, lines 3-7, and original claim 28 (reciting "a plurality of shared objects; wherein each shared object describes game personality in a selected mode"). No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 64 and 65 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. Claims 64-66 have been amended to remove the terms "Linux" and "IBM-PC".

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 58-70, 74-76 and 78-79 and 82-83 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,592,509 to Suzuki et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 80 and 81 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Suzuki as applied to claim 58 above, and further in view of Mastera et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,315,666). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 58 and 76 have been amended to more clearly recite aspects of the invention. In view of these amendments, the rejections are believed obviated.

Claim 58 is directed to a computerized wagering game apparatus comprising an operating system that includes a system handler application. The system handler application is operable to:

> load and execute a game shared object based on game data variables stored in the nonvolatile storage, the game shared object configured to provide normal game operation of the computerized wagering game;

> write the game data variables to at least one of the game state storage and nonvolatile storage when the game shared object is executed;

load a bonus shared object in response to a change in the stored game data variables by at least the game shared object, the bonus shared object configured to provide bonus operation,

normal game operation and bonus operation being different modes of operation; and

execute the bonus shared object, thereby changing from normal game operation to bonus game operation.

In this way, a computerized wagering gaming apparatus can load and execute a game shared object to provide a game in a normal game operation mode. The apparatus can then change from the normal game operation mode to a different mode of operation, e.g., bonus operation mode, in response to a change in stored game data variables by the game shared object code. The apparatus then loads and executes a bonus shared object to provide the bonus operation mode.

Claims 76 and 78 recite similar features as claim 58. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of claims 76 and 78 should be withdrawn for similar reasons as above.

The remaining dependent claims incorporate, by virtue of their dependency, all of the features of the independent claims on which they are based. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of these claims should be withdrawn for the same reasons as their respective independent claims.

CONCLUSION

The claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance of the claims at the earliest possible date is requested. If prosecution of this application can be assisted by telephone, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (510) 663-1100.

Applicants do not believe that any additional fees are required to facilitate the filing of this Amendment. However, if it is determined that such fees are due, please charge such additional fees to Deposit Account No. 504480 (Order No. IGT1P369).

Respectfully submitted,
Weaver Austin Villeneuve & Sampson LLP

/Ernest L. Ellenberger/

Ernest L. Ellenberger
Reg. No. 56,529

P.O. Box 70250
Oakland, CA 94612-0250
510-663-1100